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★ Special Edition ★ Cinco de Mayo

May 5th marks the Mexican army's victory over the French invaders at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. In the United States, the celebration of this battle has come to be known simply as the "Cinco de Mayo." Along with Mexican Independence Day on Sept. 16, Cinco de Mayo has become a time to celebrate Mexican heritage and culture.

25.3 million*

Number of U.S. residents of Mexican origin in 2003. These residents constituted 9 percent of the nation's total population.

<<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html>>.

16.6 million*

Number of people of Mexican origin who reside either in California (9.9 million) or Texas (6.7 million). People of Mexican origin make up nearly one-third of the residents of these two states. <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html>>.

10 million*

Number of foreign-born residents from Mexico. They constitute about 3-in-10 people who were foreign-born. <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html>>.

31%

Percentage of Mexican family households containing five or more people. This is the highest rate of large households among Latino groups. <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/hispanic_origin_population/001130.html>.

12%

Percentage of people of Mexican heritage who work in managerial or professional occupations. <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/hispanic_origin_population/001130.html>.

297

Number of U.S. tortilla manufacturing establishments in 2002. These establishments employed 12,000 people and had an annual payroll of \$296 million. Tortillas, the principal food of the Aztecs, are known as the “bread of Mexico.”

<<http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/view/cbpview.html>>.

\$266.6 billion

The value of goods traded between the United States and Mexico in 2004. Mexico is our nation’s second-leading trading partner, after Canada.

<<http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/>>.

* The figure given does not include people living in group quarters.

“Special Editions” of the U.S. Census Bureau *Facts for Features* are issued to provide background information for less known observances; anniversaries of historic events; and other timely topics in the news, such as:

National Nurses Week and National Hospital Week
Inauguration Day
Opening of the National Museum of the American Indian
National Adoption Month
Unmarried and Single Americans Week
Civil Rights Act of 1964 Anniversary
Anniversary of the UNIVAC Computer
Dedication of National World War II Memorial
Teacher Appreciation Week
Anniversary of ‘Wonderful World of Color’ in Television
Lewis and Clark Bicentennial
Brown v. Board of Education Anniversary
The Presidential Election
Social Security COLA
First Flight Centennial
Dialing for Dollars
Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial
Tax Time
U.S. Armed Forces and Veterans

Editor’s Note: Some of the preceding data were collected in surveys and, therefore, are subject to sampling error. Questions or comments should be directed to the Census Bureau’s Public Information Office at (301) 763-3030; fax (301) 457-3670; or e-mail <pio@census.gov>.